



ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

PROJECT HENDON – STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE OVERVIEW

2022-01-13 // 1200 HOURS // HENDON 008-2022

This report will be issued bi-weekly (unless otherwise indicated). The date span covered in this edition is from December 30, 2021, to January 12, 2022. Next report date is January 27, 2022.

KEY INFORMATION:

1. Individuals within the Patriot Movement have undertaken to organize through closed communication channels and in-person networking toward large scale protest actions. One of these actions includes a commercial truck work stoppage and highway slowdown scheduled for January 23, 2022. Information shared through social media networks indicates some of the participants of this action may be mobilizing from across the country to arrive in Ottawa for a mass anti-government protest calling for an end to all COVID-19 mandates.
2. There remains a loosely connected group of individuals who mobilize to commit direct actions at various locations in the GTA and Central Ontario in support of Wet'suwet'en solidarity to oppose the Coastal GasLink pipeline project in British Columbia (B.C.).

Patriot Movement & Public Health Protest

Adherents of the Patriot Movement and sub-sect Plaid Army (bigots) remain steadfast in their opposition of provincial and federal government responses to the COVID-19 public health crisis. Ahead of a federal mandate that was to be imposed January 15, 2022, requiring all commercial truck drivers entering Canada to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, a nationwide campaign ("Truckers Slow Roll Across Canada") had been organized amongst anti-mandate 'truckers' to slowdown/shutdown highways across Canada beginning January 23, 2022. Media reports issued early on January 13, 2022, indicate the federal government has revised the mandate so that Canadian truckers who are unvaccinated, or who have only received one dose, will not be required to quarantine.¹ Had the mandate come into effect it is estimated to have affected 10 per cent of the 120,000 Canadian truckers who traverse the border; and exacerbated existing supply-chain bottlenecks arising from recent flooding in British Columbia and China's "zero-COVID policy".² Meanwhile, the shift from the government appears to have had little effect on the organizing underway by members of the Patriot Movement who have taken to social media advising 'truckers' plan to carry out their intended work stoppage and revealed that as part of their hold back messaging, was the additional

¹ <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/vaccine-mandate-for-truckers-will-have-exemption-cbsa-says-1.5738185> - accessed 2022.01.13

² <https://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/canada-truckers-vaccine-reversal-1.6313200> - accessed 2022.01.13

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objective of staging a mass convoy to Ottawa. While the reversal has been characterized as a win owed to their resistance efforts, leadership figures claim their convoy action had been organized to reverse 'all mandates' relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. Currently, details remain scant and the overall situation fluid. Spokespersons have shared that 'behind the scenes' organizing had been underway for some time and if participants cannot mobilize to the main highways they are encouraged to enact stop work actions locally. The goal is to disrupt and further strain the 'already fragile supply chain'; while a larger objective, that of staging a mass protest in Ottawa, is to 'put the fear of God in the politicians' and bring about an end to all COVID-19 public health measures. Online content has included overt and nuanced references to using force; although, spokespersons have indicated the use of violence has not been part of their planning. More information is anticipated to be shared January 14, 2022. Currently, there is no credible intelligence to suggest an armed insurgence is imminent. POIB continues to monitor and liaise with stakeholders.

Other evolvments within the movement have included leadership figures attempting to mobilize smaller community Freedom Alliances to attend larger demonstrations in city centres, specifically Toronto and Ottawa, in order to send a stronger message to government about the seriousness of their movement. Speeches and online content have included references that convey a willingness to engage in actions that go beyond what is peaceful and lawful; however, means and methods are not provided in these addresses. The 6th World Wide Rally for Freedom, scheduled for January 22, 2022, may be an opportunity for adherents to mobilize in large numbers in Toronto and Ottawa. Ongoing political organizing by MPP Randy HILLIER continues to place an emphasis on the harms of the COVID-19 vaccine, especially where it relates to children, and perpetuate theories of multi-government deception relating back to origin of the virus and all responses since. Police information indicates groups that may hold associations to HILLIER continue to discuss anti-government guerilla warfare tactics where weapon acquisition, training, and 'prepping' for an escalation of resistance actions are taking place in some settings. There remains an ongoing narrative to prepare for self-sufficient communities in order to subsist as adherents of these groups and individuals who choose to remain unvaccinated will begin to experience the withdrawal of basic social services including health care. Currently, there is no credible intelligence to suggest armed militia is planning an insurgence against either the provincial or federal governments. POIB continues to monitor and liaise with stakeholders.

Other narratives emerging from the Patriot movement suggest 5G towers are causing health problems and 'radiation poisoning' – one example shared by a prominent anti-mandate and anti-vaccine figurehead described their experience of the illness, notably the symptoms were akin to that of a COVID-19 infection. Currently there is no credible intelligence to suggest 5G towers are at a heightened vulnerability for tampering and/or sabotage by adherents of the Patriot Movement. POIB continues to monitor.

Demonstrations continue to manifest at the private residences of public health officials, leaders within the medical community and politicians. To date, there have been no reports of violence. Online messaging continues to promote this tactic as a means of intimidating the target group and their families toward feeling unsafe, ('trapped within their own residences'), and to force a reversal of policy and/or governmental change. Currently, there is no specific

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intelligence to support the use of violence as part of these demonstrations. POIB continues to liaise with affected stakeholders.

Police reporting continues to reflect a demand on resources to attend calls for service on account of public health policy non-compliance issues as well as disputes (sometimes family and custody related) arising from differing ideologies surrounding the safety of COVID-19 vaccines.

Currently, there is no specific credible threat and monitoring remains attuned to where ideologically motivated extremism may manifest among some supporters. Given the complexity of issues emerging from protests, a list of upcoming events is included for situational awareness, please refer to **Appendix A: "Public Health Protest"** at the end of this report.

White Lives Matter (WLM)

The next WLM event is scheduled for January 15, 2022, it is unknown if WLM Toronto will organize to attend Queen's Park as they have previously. Online content from social media forums indicate adherents of the Active Clubs are engaging in more overtly anti-Semitic, racist and hate propaganda rhetoric. There remain strong white supremacist overtones to the content. Currently, there is no specific intelligence to suggest a risk to public safety. POIB and stakeholders continue to monitor.

McKenzie Meadows Occupation (MMO)

The McKenzie Meadows Occupation (MMO) remains ongoing. The occupiers maintain possession of the backhoe, excavator and scissor lift misappropriated from Dufferin Construction in late October 2020. On January 10, 2022, it was reported the excavator had sustained heavy burn damage. At this time, it remains undetermined what events brought about the damage.

An individual known to be involved in the MMO was intercepted visiting new construction sites, in the Town of Paris and in Brant County, demanding that all work be stopped and that the owners of the construction sites contact Six Nations before any further construction take place. During the nighttime hours January 11, 2022, a unit under construction at one of the visited sites sustained fire damage, investigations to date suggest the fire was an act of arson. The investigation remains ongoing.

Potential for Demonstrations in Ontario Stemming from Opposition to Coastal GasLink Project

Opposition to the Coastal GasLink pipeline project in British Columbia (B.C.) continues to generate significant attention amongst Ontario-based activists. As of December 13, 2021, the Highway 6 bypass (that had been blocked in response to RCMP "E" Division enforcement actions) remains open to vehicular traffic. On January 5, 2022, a burnt out vehicle was successfully removed from the CN Rail line without incident, effectively returning the line to normal

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operations. There has been no notable reaction from the Six Nations community following the removal. Arrests have begun in relation to the October and November 2021 blockade actions. On January 11, 2022, the leadership figure was arrested and released without incident, six other individuals will also be charged. To date, there has been no negative reactions from the Six Nations community owing to the arrest. POIB continues to monitor.

Opposition to the CGL PipeLine Project & Wet'suwet'en Solidarity

There continue to be a number of solidarity actions in Ontario undertaken in support to oppose the Coastal GasLink project. Recent actions have included protests aimed at blocking critical infrastructure and calls to action targeting RBC (due to their financial support of fossil fuel projects). On January 10, 2021, an individual chained himself to the entrance of an RBC branch in Orillia as part of a protest. The male is quoted as saying *"while waiting for the police, I chained myself to the front door to make a point and resist arrest, as well as showing how I feel about the financial institution's financing of ecological breakdowns"* and *"after about 30 minutes, I struck a deal with the police that I would not return to the bank, so they issued a ticket for trespassing property without any criminal charges."*; he further added that it was worth it for him to take a stance against RBC.³

Partner information indicated RCMP "E" Division had been planning enforcement actions for January 10, 2022, at Camp Coyote to remove occupiers who had taken over the CGL work site. However, the Gidimt'en Checkpoint group was made aware of the upcoming plan to enforce the injunction and vacated the camp before the RCMP deployed.

Upcoming solidarity actions include:

- **Toronto** – "Wet'suwet'en Solidarity Highway Disruption", January 18, 2022 at 08:00 hours – meet at Toronto Music Garden and walk to the Gardiner Expressway. Police of jurisdiction are engaged. POIB continues to monitor.
- **Toronto** – "Land Back Square", Yonge and Dundas Square, every Sunday at 16:00 hours. Information posted as part of the campaign advertisement indicates organizers will attempt to block traffic. Police of jurisdiction are engaged. POIB continues to monitor.

Arrowdale Occupation

The Arrowdale Golf Course Occupation has ended. On December 31, 2021, the occupiers vacated the premises and the property was returned to the City of Brantford. Concrete barriers have since been installed at the front entrance of the encampment effectively blocking access to the site for vehicles. The involved members from Six Nations

³ [Severn man arrested after chaining himself to door at Orillia's RBC - Orillia News \(orilliamatters.com\)](https://orilliamatters.com) – accessed 2022.01.13



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released a statement advising they withdrew from the site for it to be honourably settled within the courts. The Brantford Police Service have charged one male for his involvement in this occupation.

Residential Schools

There is no update with respect to the possibility of a group of Indigenous delegates visiting Pope Francis at the Vatican or a Papal visit to Canada in 2022. One of the calls to action in the 2015 final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) called for a Papal apology on Canadian soil within one year.

Assessment

The information coming out through social media pertaining to a nationwide campaign of 'truckers' to stage a work-stoppage, highway slow-down and convoy to Ottawa appears to have benefited from semi-clandestine organizing that had been underway for some time. This supports earlier assessments where it was believed adherents of the Patriot Movement network through a variety of means that includes in-person meetings. The tone of speeches and online content emanating from leadership figures and adherents alike suggests there is a growing frustration by the overall lack of success in effecting governmental change. While there is no new information within this reporting period relating to the operational status of the Sault Ste. Marie Freedom School, the establishment and planning alone signals the seriousness, level of dedication, and resources some adherents of the Patriot Movement possess toward creating a sovereign existence. Aside from this, the emerging trend to form larger alliance groups (in some instances casting aside differences) appears to hold a connection to the organizing efforts of MPP Randy HILLIER; and the Pastor from the Church of God, Aylmer, each of whom possess considerable influence within the Patriot movement as a whole. Historically, events that have been organized or endorsed by the duo have mobilized large participant numbers in several areas of the province, most notably to Toronto and Ottawa. All other assessments remain unchanged.

Reporting continues to identify Public Health Units, employers with mandated COVID-19 vaccine policies, school boards, and police agencies as vulnerable to protest actions by anti-COVID-19 vaccine and anti-mandate opposition. There appears to be a growing movement toward adherents threatening public health officials and law enforcement leaders that may reach a threshold of intimidation and criminal harassment. In broad terms, the Patriot movement and sub-sect Plaid Army (Bigots) continue to mobilize and react in the following manner:

- Police reporting indicates a number of spontaneous demonstrations have erupted both at, and in response to, the paediatric COVID-19 vaccination roll-out;
- City Halls, Public Health Units and COVID-19 clinics (of all kinds) remain vulnerable to protest actions that could go beyond what is lawful and peaceful;
- Analysis of events indicates adherents are both willing and able to travel moderate to great distances in order to attend demonstrations;
- Organizing appears to be accomplished through both open and closed communication networks allowing for spontaneity and sizeable numbers.

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- Actions have become more disruptive involving the blocking of intersections and in other instances the behaviour of demonstrators has become aggressive and agitating that has required the intervention of police to deescalate tensions.

Many within the Patriot Movement and its sub-sect, the Plaid Army, believe their predictions of a segregated society of vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals is coming to fruition. As such, they anticipate the withdrawal of social services including access to health care and continue to frame the public health driven response to the COVID-19 pandemic as calculated government harm towards a complete eradication of human rights and freedoms. Equally concerning for law enforcement is the threat posed by public order events where some leadership figures, including politicians, have the ability to incite or inspire participants to breach barriers. Tactics appear to be evolving to include elements of civil disobedience, intimidation, and harassment.

While the freedom of peaceful assembly is protected by the Charter, and where some anti-lockdown / anti-mask participants may have been prompted to join protest movements motivated by a perception of government overreach and erosion of civil-liberties – the individuals who are now partaking appear to be following leadership figures who strongly advance anti-government sentiments, rely on pseudo-legal ideals, and promote wide-spread conspiracy theories. These theories notably take in COVID-19 denialism, "plandemic" phraseology, and elements of QAnon rhetoric.

Adherents who identify more so as part of the "Plaid Army / Bigots" are believed to espouse ideologies aligned with using force as a means of effecting government change. Police information continues to support this assertion. It is also believed adherents participate in closed communication channels where high-level organizing may be taking place through in-person meetings held in private settings. These groups are noted to be scattered across the Province and are accessed through online forums, word of mouth, and invites following public events. Private social media platforms also appear to be facilitating/supporting a high level of organizing.

The realization of an action, attack, or incident result from where intent and capability meet with opportunity. Relative threat levels can increase or decrease in response to an actor's personal circumstances and where these may be influenced by their perception of urgency to bring about change. **In order to gain a deeper understanding of the intent and capability of the Patriot Movement and Plaid Army as a whole, source recruitment and deployed event monitors may be worth consideration for upcoming events. This could assist in identifying access points into the more extremist-minded anti-government organizing that is taking place at the grassroots level and online spaces. Additionally, operational investigative avenues may warrant exploration including source, surveillance, covert and technological investigations.**

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The WLM movement in Ontario continues to cultivate membership and advance rhetoric that is increasingly identifiable as that of hate propaganda to advance a white-supremacist ideology. An intelligence gap exists around the training sessions and where these events may be building toward an agenda that could include tactics aligned with neo-Nazism. POIB continues to monitor and liaise with stakeholders.

The prolonged nature of efforts to oppose the Coastal GasLink pipeline project has facilitated the development of solidarity networks in anticipation of future actions. It is therefore important to note that individuals within Ontario are able to mobilize with little prior warning, particularly when conducting acts that target and/or disrupt critical infrastructure. POIB continues to monitor developments related to a number of provincial and national issues, including Wet'suwet'en solidarity action and the examination of former residential school sites in Canada.

Critical infrastructure, particularly rail, remain vulnerable to acts of ideologically motivated criminal extremism owing to the heightened profile of Wet'suwet'en Solidarity. POIB continues to monitor toward identifying potential public safety threats arising from social justice activism.

Through a co-ordination of efforts, the OPP continues to provide situational awareness supporting operations at provincial tables.

Please send all information and/or intelligence regarding relevant suspicious incidents or acts of criminal extremism to the following Project Hendon intake email address:

OPP.Project.Hendon@opp.ca

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Appendix "A" – Public Health Protest

- **January 14, 2022**
 - **Fergus** – "No More Lockdowns Protest Outside Ted Artnott's Office" 181 St. Andrew Street, East, from 12:00 till 14:00 hours.
- **January 15, 2022**
 - **Toronto** – "Say NO to Lockdowns!" Yonge and Dundas Square, beginning at 12:00 hours. Organized by THE LINE CANADA.
- **January 22 & 23, 2022 – Worldwide Campaign – "WWRF 6.0"**
 - **Toronto** – "World Wide Rally for Freedom 6.0", Queen's Park, January 22, 2022, beginning at 12:00 hours. Convoy from Peterborough.
 - **Ottawa** – "World Wide Rally for Freedom 6.0", Parliament Hill, January 22, 2022, from 11:00 to 15:00 hours.
 - ****Other Locations are possible****
- **January 23, 2022 – Nationwide Campaign – "Truckers Slow Roll Across Canada"**
 - *****No specific starting locations***** Unconfirmed information suggests participants will be mobilizing from BC, AB, ON and the maritime provinces toward Ottawa Parliament Hill as a destination. No timelines have been shared. More information is anticipated January 14, 2022.

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